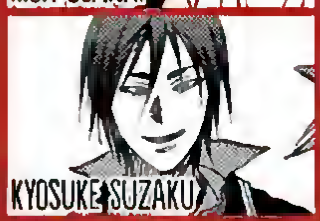
ROBOT×LASERBEAM

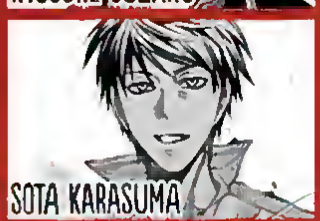
BY TADATOSHI FUJIMAKI

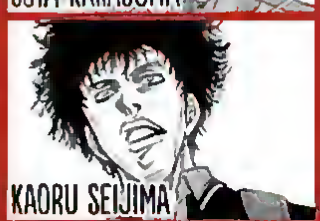
Robato Hatohara, a stupidly serious, creepily thorough and socially clueless high school boy, appears to have no interest in anything—including joining his friend Tomoya in the golf club. But when it's discovered that his perfect accuracy and calculations enable him to golf like a practiced professional, will he be able to escape playing golf?

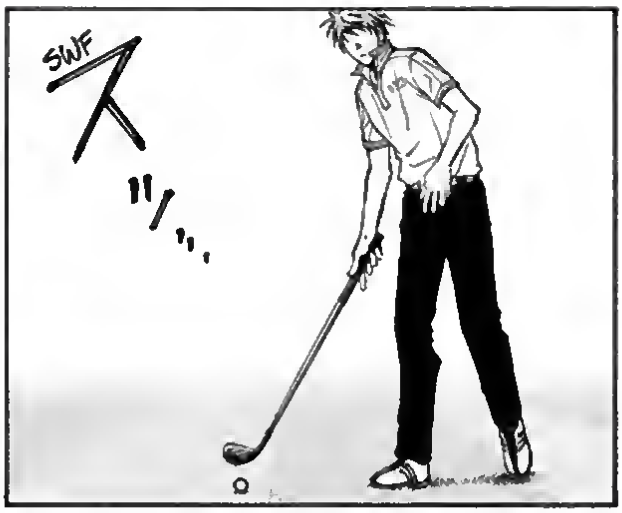
PREVIOUSLY IN *ROBOT×LASERBEAM*:

After Robato Hatohara demonstrates his perfect swing, famous high school golfer Yozan Miura declares him to be his rival! But for their rivalry to actually grow, Robo needs to join the golf club and become a regular. A second-year student and regular, Rion Osanai, takes Robo under his wing to accomplish this goal and help him get a score of 70 before the training camp. Robo survives the athletic training for the team, but his score isn't good enough to compete in the training camp. But then Kyosuke Suzaku, a.k.a. "the Emperor," appears and challenges Robo to play against him in the practice match! The match begins, and Robo is losing by only a little. But then Suzaku hits his ball into a seemingly impossible-to-recover spot, only to make a perfect lob shot right into the hole! Meanwhile, the second-years gear up for their own matches as Rion tees off against loudmouth Takeshi. But right behind him is the nonchalant, seemingly cool Karasuma and his monstrous opponent, Kaoru Seijima. Karasuma is behind on his score, but the Wedge Wizard's got a few tricks up his sleeves…









Round 19: Emergency

HE TOOK HIS STANCE WITHOUT ANY HESITATION IN ONE MOVE!

HE'S ACTING ALL NONCHALANT, BUT HE'S NOT JUST SHOWING OFF!

SHVR

THAT'S WHY THEY NEVER NEGLECT TO CHECK.

EVEN FOR PROS... IF THEY DON'T NOTICE THEY'RE OFF, IT COULD RUIN THEIR GAME.

BEING OFF BY ONE CENTIMETER COULD MESS YOU UP.

CONSISTENTLY MAINTAINING THE SAME DISTANCE BETWEEN YOURSELF AND THE BALL IS WHAT MAKES GOLF DIFFICULT.

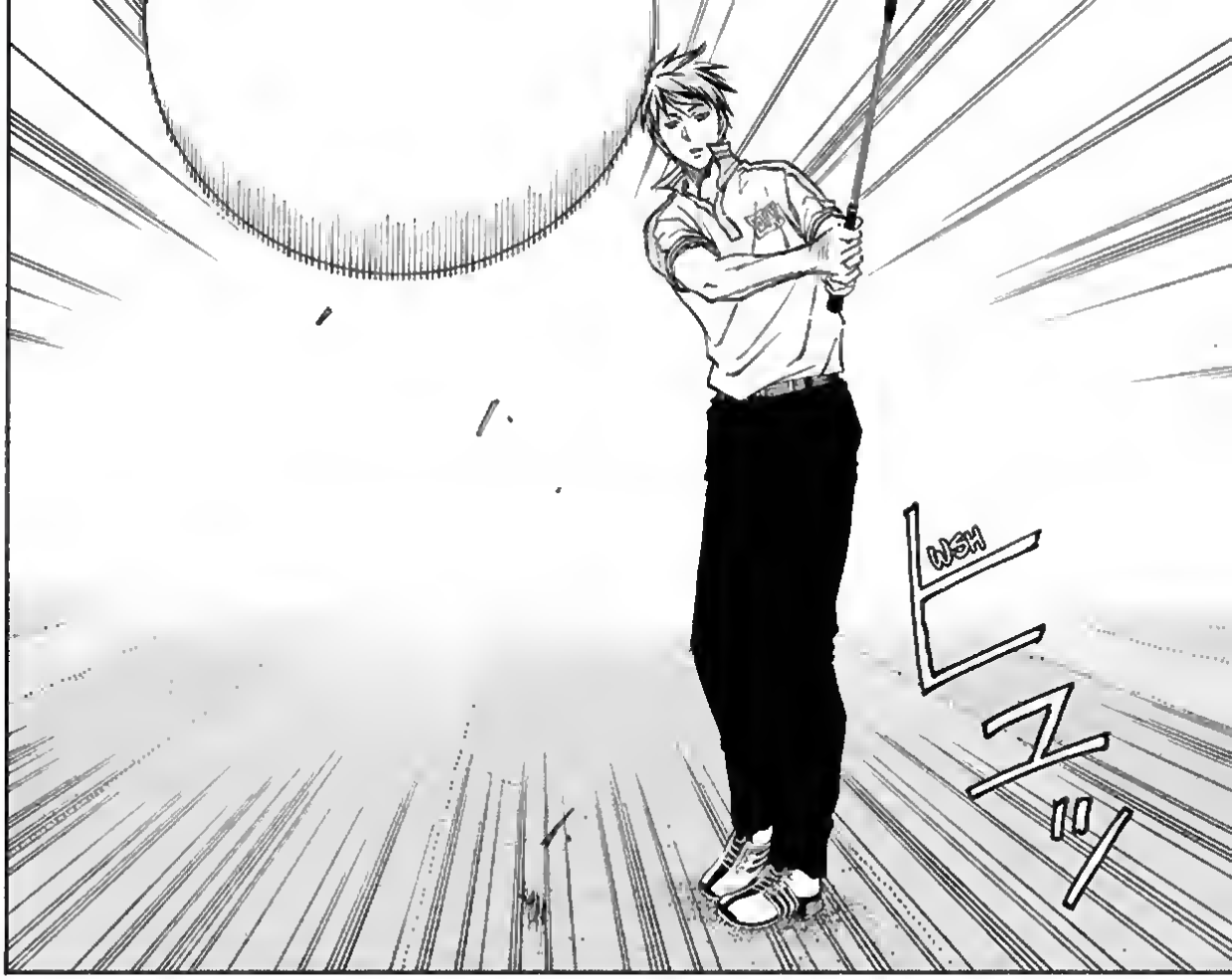
...IS BECAUSE HE'S EXPERI-ENCED!

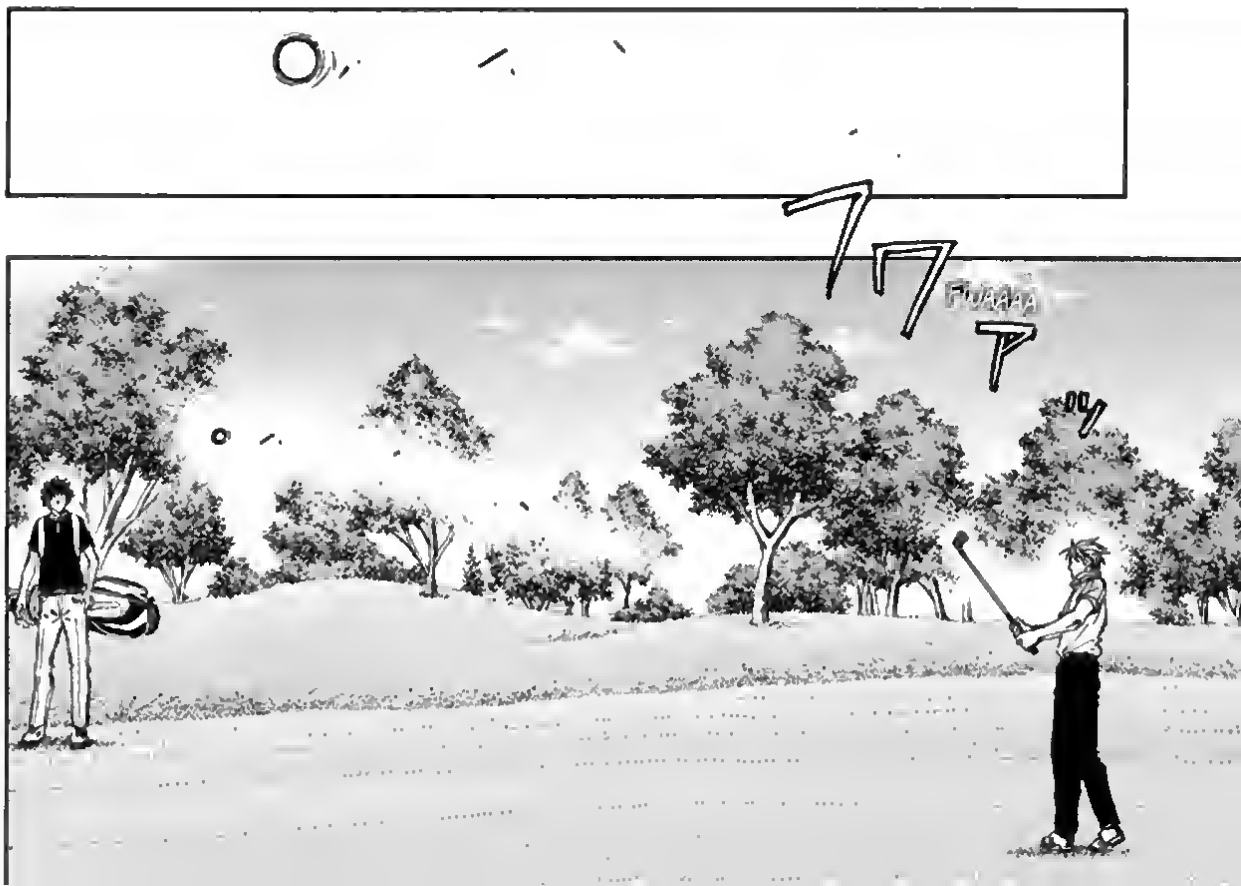
PHEW

JUST FROM HIS APPROACH, I CAN TELL...

...THAT INDIFFERENCE OF HIS...

WOOSH


WSH


FUAAAA

AND YET... WHAT'S THIS?! IT'S SLOW ENOUGH THAT I CAN TRACK IT WITH MY EYE?!
THE BALL IS ONE BEAT BEHIND HIS SWING!
IT'S SO LOW ...!
TMP
NO, HERE IT COMES!
ONE OF THE WIZARD'S SEVEN APPROACHES !!
BUT IT'S FIVE METERS FROM THE PIN. BIG WHOOP!
IT'S ON!
Bo!

CRIMSON LOTUS FLAME!!
WHAT?!
WHAT A SHARP BACK-SPIN!
FOR A SECOND THERE IT LOOKED LIKE IT WAS ON FIRE!

TP
KLAK
WOOOW!
BUMMER! TOO BAD HE DIDN'T CHIP IT IN!
HUH...
I GUESS THE FIRE WAS TOO STRONG...
WOOOO

TONK
I WAS JUST LUCKY.
THE WIND HELPED ME OUT.
...
WOOOW!!!
AMAZING! IT WENT IN!!
A CHIP-IN EAGLE!

SSSSS
DAMN IT!
AAAW! A THREE-PUTT! HE WENT FROM AN EAGLE TO PAR!
HEY.
IT'S NOT ALWAYS ABOUT HEIGHT.
BEAN-POLE.
GRR
GUH ...!

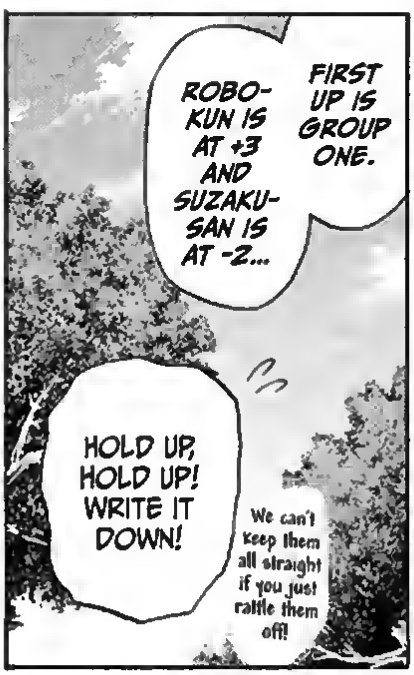
東北国際

WAH!
YEAH !!
NICE!
THUMP
OOH. NOT BAD. NOT BAD!
HE ALWAYS FOLLOWS PROPER THEORY AND AIMS FOR THE CENTER OF THE GREEN
BUT THEN AGAIN, HE'S MUCH MORE CONSISTENT THAN YOUR AVERAGE PLAYER.
IT'S A SUPER DEFENSIVE STYLE OF GOLF—THE COMPLETE OPPOSITE OF SUZAKU'S!
...!

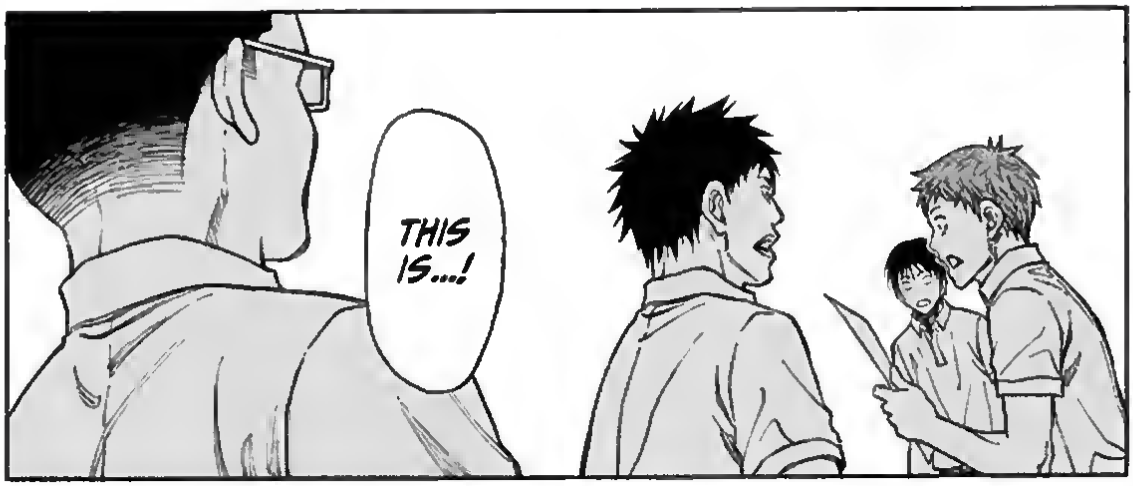
...
ゴ"ク
GLUG
ゴ"ク
GLUG...
EVEN THOUGH IT'S NOT SUMMER YET...
...IT'S SO HOT TODAY.
IT'S EVEN HARDER ON THE PLAYERS.
THE COURSE IS ALMOST COMPLETELY IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT.
AND THEY HAVE TO WALK THE ENTIRE TIME CARRYING THOSE BAGS THAT WEIGH OVER TEN KILOS.

EVEN THOUGH HE ONLY JUST JOINED...
...I THINK IT'S A BIG DEAL JUST FOR ROBO TO BE ABLE TO KEEP WALKING.
YEAH.
I WONDER HOW OUR SENPAI ARE DOING.

!
YOU'RE ...
HEH!
I WAS WONDERING MYSELF, SO I WENT AROUND AND ASKED EACH GROUP!

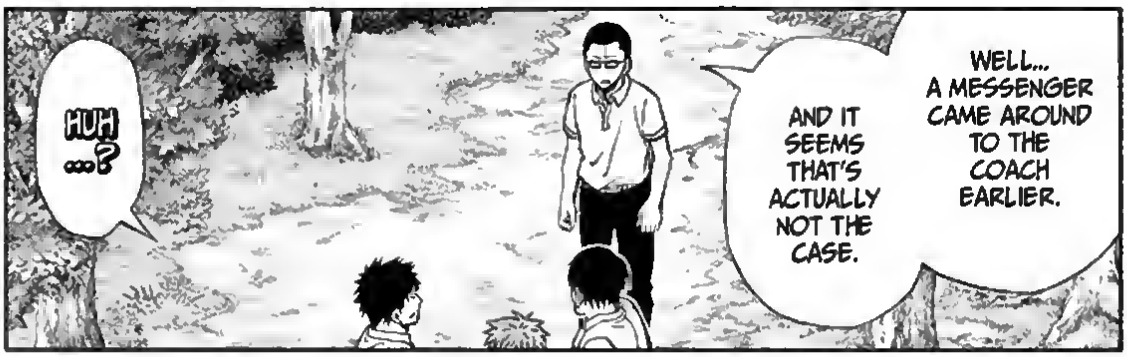

FIRST UP IS GROUP ONE.
ROBO-KUN IS AT +3 AND SUZAKU-SAN IS AT -2...
HOLD UP, HOLD UP! WRITE IT DOWN!
We can't keep them all straight if you just rattle them off!

I'M SECOND TO NONE WHEN IT COMES TO CONFIRMING THE SCORES AND UPDATING EVERYONE ON THE CURRENT SITUATION!
BADUUUM
WHO ?!
AND WHO WOULD WANT TO BE THE BEST AT THAT?!
DENJIRO YOSHIDA !!
I love when everyone goes "Oooh!"
Uh, we're both first-years. So I guess I do know you...



Tohoku International			Eiai Academy	
Kyosuke Suzaku	-2	VS	~~+3~~ OMIT	Robato Hatohara
Takeshi Fuwa	-1	VS	-1	Rion Osanai
Toma Kagezawa	E	VS	E	Gen Kuroda
Daigo Munakata	E	VS	-1	Shintaro Hiiragi
Kaoru Sejima	~~+1~~ OMIT	VS	-2	Sota Karasuma
TOTAL	-3		TOTAL	-4

BUT HE'S STILL NO MATCH FOR THE UPPER-CLASSMEN.
THEN AGAIN. SINCE THEY'RE NOT COUNTING HIS SCORE, IT HAS NO IMPACT ON THE TEAM'S VICTORY.
WOW, ROBO! A +7 WOULD MEET YOUR GOAL OF -70 FOR THIS MATCH. SO... YOU MIGHT JUST BE ABLE TO MAKE IT!
OOH! WE'RE WINNING!!
AND ROBO'S AT +3!
Of course I knew that though!


HUH ...?
AND IT SEEMS THAT'S ACTUALLY NOT THE CASE.
WELL... A MESSENGER CAME AROUND TO THE COACH EARLIER.

HMM?
GOING AROUND AND CHECKING OUT ALL THE GROUPS I THOUGHT I'D GET AN IMPRESSION OF WHO'S IN THE LEAD, BUT...
...THERE'S NOT REALLY AS BIG A DIFFERENCE AS I WAS EXPECTING.

ESPECIALLY SINCE THEY'RE TAKING ON THE NUMBER ONE TEAM IN JAPAN— TOHOKU INTER-NATIONAL.
EVEN IF WE HAVE THE LEAD, THAT TEAM ISN'T GOING TO FALL APART.
THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE A BLOWOUT.
THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED.
IN GOLF, IN A MATCH AT THIS LEVEL, IT'S HARD TO CATCH UP BY EVEN A SINGLE STROKE.
HUH ...?
THIS IS BAD.
PLUS WE DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE THE ADVANTAGE. WE'RE IN TROUBLE.
Uuuh.
THAT KID... ROBO, WAS IT?
I ASKED THE MESSENGER THAT WAS JUST HERE TO GO TO GROUP ONE AND TELL THEM, BUT I WONDER...
I HEARD HE'D MADE A FULL RECOVERY, BUT...
THAT IDIOT...

*The Turn: For most golf courses, it's when you've gotten to the halfway point of nine holes and return to the club house.

FROM THE START, I'VE BEEN PLAYING BELIEVING THAT NOW THAT I'M IN THIS MATCH, I AT LEAST HAVE A SHOT.
WHY? THAT HASN'T BEEN DECIDED YET.
?

ROBO'S SCORE WON'T BE OMITTED.
IN OTHER WORDS, THE FATE OF THIS MATCH...
...RESTS ON HIS PERFOR-MANCE.
IN FACT, PUT THE OTHER WAY AROUND ...
...IF I JUST TRY HARD ENOUGH, WE MIGHT WIN.
TO BE CONTINUED...